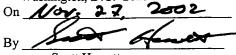
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Washington, D.C. 20231

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Scott Hewett

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: ZARRABIAN et al.

Application No.: 09/810,828

Filed: March 16, 2001

For: VARIABLE FILTER-BASED OPTICAL OPTICAL SPECTROMETER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Examiner: ARTMAN, T.R.

Art Unit: 28

In response to the Office action mailed on August 28, 2002 please amend the above-identified application as follows. Claims 17-25, which include 3 independent claims, have been cancelled, and claims 27-31, including 3 independent claims, are added. The undersigned believes that no fee is required with this amendment; however, if a fee is required the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the necessary fee to USPTO Deposit Account No. 50-0891.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 according to the following replacement claim, cancel claims 17-25, and add claims 27-31 as shown below. A marked-up version of the amended claim 1 is provided following the Remarks section.

An optical spectrometer component comprising: 1.

a fiber optic input? collimating optics

a linear variable filter having